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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

December 21, 2016

Mr. David Larson  
President and CEO  
Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan  
647 W. Virginia Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Dear Mr. Larson:

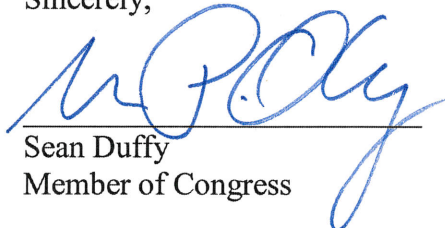
It has come to my attention that refugees from Syria have been approved for resettlement in my congressional district and that Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan (LSS) has been tasked with assessing whether the City of Hudson is a viable community for their resettlement and LSS's ability to provide supportive services.

The State of Wisconsin has a tradition of welcoming refugees, such as the Hmong from Southeast Asia, which has strengthened our communities and given innocent civilians a way to escape war in their home country. While I am proud our state has accepted many refugees with open hearts and community support, I am concerned that your organization has not done a thorough and complete assessment about the viability of resettling Syrian refugees in Hudson. My office has been informed that these assessments typically take two to three weeks but in this particular case LSS staff conducted its assessment in just two days and could made a decision as early as today.

Our community and the refugees deserve a thorough review of the greater Hudson area, instead of one that is rushed to meet a political timeline. Before LSS makes its final decision based on this expedited assessment, I ask that you provide me with evidence that you have conducted a thorough examination of the appropriateness of resettling refugees in Hudson and a written narrative of your findings.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I ask for your prompt response.

Sincerely,



Sean Duffy  
Member of Congress

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